

I. IN THE CLAIMS

Please make the following changes to claims 1-19 as indicated below.

- 1) (currently amended) A method of processing material, comprising:
 - a. placing the material onto a milling line for ~~processing~~ milling;
 - b. initializing a sensor positioned to sense a measurement of a predetermined characteristic of a predetermined portion of the material, the sensor protected by a sensor housing;
 - c. initializing a stepper motor, disposed proximate the line, to a predetermined position;
 - d. ~~processing~~ milling the material at a predetermined location along the milling line;
 - e. sensing a predetermined characteristic of the material on the milling line;
 - f. calculating an adjustment of the material in a predetermined plane using the sensed characteristic;
 - g. sending a signal to the stepper motor based on the calculated adjustment, if the adjustment is non-zero; and
 - h. retaining the sensed characteristic of the material for certification of the sensed characteristic.

- 2) (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein step (e) further comprises sensing a predetermined characteristic of the material on the milling line by physical contact of the sensor with the material to be ~~processed~~ milled.

- 3) (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the sensed characteristic comprises a measurement of a predetermined portion of the material in a single plane.
- 4) (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the sensed characteristic comprises a measurement of length of at least one side of the material and a diagonal of the material.
- 5) (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the sensed characteristic comprises a measurement of length of a plurality of sides of the material and a calculated diagonal of the material.
- 6) (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising generating a certification of the predetermined characteristic based on the retaining sensed characteristic.
- 7) (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the certification comprises a report indicative of calculated “real-time” statistical process control charts, listings of dimensions as processed, and capability process charts.
- 8) (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the certification is generated in real-time.
- 9) (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the material is at least one of metal, plastic, glass, paper, organic materials, and composites.

10) (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the processing is at least one of cutting, shaping, etching, assembling, welding, progressive dies, stamping, and riveting.

11) (original) A device for processing material, adaptable for use with an existing manufacturing device, comprising:

- a. a milling line, comprising:
 - i. a table on which material may be placed for processing; and
 - ii. a materials processor;
- b. at least one stepper motor disposed proximate the milling line, the stepper motor useful to control a directional movement of material placed onto the milling line for milling, the stepper motor operatively in contact with the material to affect positioning of the material on the table;
- c. a mainframe disposed proximate the existing manufacturing device;
- d. a positioner disposed proximate a first end of the mainframe;
- e. a protected sensor for sensing a predetermined characteristic of the material, the sensor disposed proximate the mainframe and the materials to be processed;
- f. a controller for issuing stepper motor commands;
- g. a measurement sensor disposed proximate the mainframe, the sensor capable of measuring a predetermined dimension of the material in real-time; and
- h. a computer operatively in communication with the controller and the sensors, the computer programmed to:
 - i. receive signals from the measurement sensor;
 - ii. receive the measured predetermined dimensions of the material in real-time from the controller;

- iii. issue control directives to the controller for use in controlling the stepper motor; and
- iv. concurrently generate a certification of the measured predetermined dimensions.

12) (currently amended) The ~~system~~ device for processing material of claim 11 further comprising a plurality of stepper motors.

13) (currently amended) The ~~system~~ device for processing material of claim 11 further comprising a tensioner connected to the stepper motor for maintaining a predetermined pressure between the stepper motor and the material.

14) (currently amended) The ~~system~~ device for processing material of claim 11 wherein the measurement sensor is at least partially in physical contact with the material to be processed.

15) (currently amended) The ~~system~~ device for processing material of claim 11 wherein the measurement sensor comprises at least one of a pressure sensors, acoustic sensors, and optical sensors.

16) (currently amended) A device for processing a material, comprising:

- a. a milling table for movably accepting material to be processed;
- b. a plurality of stepper motors operatively connected to the milling table, at least one first stepper motor being capable of moving the material in a first plane;

- c. a ~~materials-processor~~ miller;
- d. a measurement sensor situated within a sensor housing;
- e. a controller operatively connected to the measurement sensor and the plurality of stepper motors; and
- f. a computer operatively in communication with the controller;
- g. wherein
 - i. the computer calculates an adjustment of the material on the milling table using a sensed measurement;
 - ii. the computer provides the controller with data useful in controlling at least one of the stepper motors based on the calculated adjustment; and
 - iii. the computer concurrently generates a certification of the sensed measurements.

17) (currently amended) The ~~system~~ device for processing material of claim 16 further comprising a tensioner connected to at least one of the plurality of stepper motors for maintaining a predetermined pressure between the stepper motor and the material.

18) (currently amended) The ~~system~~ device for processing material of claim 16 wherein the measurement sensor is at least partially in physical contact with the material to be processed.

19) (currently amended) The ~~system~~ device for processing material of claim 16 wherein the measurement sensor comprises at least one of a pressure sensors, acoustic sensors, and optical sensors.